



WHALEY BRIDGE E.R. PRIMARY SCHOOL

★ For every child, a chance to shine ★



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Headteacher
Mrs F Walton B.Ed. (Hons)

Dear Parents,

Thursday 5th September, 2019

A warm welcome back to you all! It is so lovely to see the children looking so smart and excited about starting a new and exciting year. The children have settled into their classes and engaged with their learning quickly.

You can find lots of information on our school website, including: policies, letters and a school calendar with school events and dates for your diary.

Toddbrook Reservoir

I hope that everybody who was affected by the collapse of the dam during the summer holidays is now ok and settled. What a stressful time for the community. As a school, we are incredibly grateful to all the emergency services and hardworking volunteers who saved our town. We discussed it briefly in assembly this morning, the children were keen to share their stories! We have decided that we would dedicate some time during lessons to write, draw and discuss the incident, but in a positive way. We are contacting some of the volunteers and emergency services to invite them into school. We would also like to raise some money to help some of these charities who helped. More details to follow.

If your child has been affected by the situation during the summer, and you have concerns about their wellbeing, then please do contact school to speak with either myself or Mrs Heyes.

Communication

All communication from school is via Parent Hub. Please make sure that you have joined the hub so that you receive information. As we are now a cashless school, all monies are collected via ParentPay. If you have any problems, please contact Mrs Casey in the office who can offer assistance.

Extra-curricular club lists will be live on Parentpay by the end of today.

Please remember that if you need to contact school, you can do this in a variety of ways: you can email the office on the school email: info@whaleybridge.derbyshire.sch.uk or you can phone the office on 01663 732354, if the line is busy, do leave a message and a member of the team will get back to you.

Teachers are available to speak to in the morning when they collect the children at 8:50am but if you require a longer conversation, please make an appointment to speak with them after school at a more convenient time, this can be done through the office.

Uniform

We have talked to the children about the reasons of looking smart and being a proud WBPS pupil. We expect children to adhere to the uniform code and ensure that trainers, nail varnish, temporary tattoos, jewellery are not worn to school. Stud earrings are allowed, but just plain. I must say, I have never seen so many shiny shoes and wish you all luck in keeping them that way!

Just a reminder that children are not allowed to bring in mobile phones to school, this includes school events too.

Attendance

We have been working hard on our attendance and making sure that it is above the national average. Last academic year, we were above national and we would like to keep that trend going this year too. Please can you continue to support us making sure your child/ren are in school, unless they are unwell. If you have an exceptional circumstance for taking your child out of school, you must submit the form into school for consideration. A holiday is not an exceptional circumstance and parents will incur a fine.

Punctuality

Class teachers will meet the children on the playground at 8:50am and will bring them into school at 8:55am. The children are the school's responsibility from 8:55am. If children access school any earlier they are the responsibility of the parent/guardian. Lessons will commence at 9:05am so it is important that children are punctual and prepared for their school day.

Children are not allowed to access the school site before 8:40pm unsupervised.

Parking

Buxton Road is incredibly busy and becomes congested easily at the beginning and end of the school day. As part of a healthy routine, we encourage children to walk to school, park and stride or car share whenever possible. We understand that this is not always possible, so can we ask you to park responsibly, ensuring that we respect local residents and businesses. Parking/dropping off on school property is not permitted, unless there are exceptional circumstances and a parking permit has been allocated from the school.

Anti-bullying Policy

We continue to promote and ensure the safety of children at school and how they can stay safe at school. Our Anti-bullying policy is closely adhered to and is available for you to read on our website.

Meet the Team evening.

There will be lots of events coming up during the school year, please check our website for dates. Please put **Monday 16th September, 3:45-5:45pm** in your diaries, as it's 'Meet the Team' evening. This is an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher, to ask questions and for the teacher to talk about what your child will be doing this year. More details to follow.

Our curriculum

Our curriculum has been designed to be interesting and engaging for our children. To enrich our curriculum this year, we have organised for Years 3, 4 and 6 to receive Forest Schools and Take Part in the Art sessions on a weekly basis.

Democracy Day

Tomorrow the school will be taking part in a Democracy Day. Children who would like to consider standing for ECO Councillor, School Councillor and Team Captain (Y6 only) will have the opportunity to present their campaign and children will vote. On Monday, our newly elected team will be presented to the school during assembly.

I am looking forward to a busy and exciting term.

Mrs Fay Walton
Head teacher